

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY BOARD Overview & Scrutiny Committee Agenda

Date Thursday 16 November 2023

Time 6.00 pm

Venue Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Oldham, West Street, Oldham, OL1 1NL

Notes 1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote he/she is advised to contact Paul Entwistle or Constitutional Services at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

2. CONTACT OFFICER for this agenda is Constitutional Services Tel.0161 770 5151 or email to constitutional.services@oldham.gov.uk

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS - Any Member of the public wishing to ask a question at the above meeting can do so only if a written copy of the question is submitted to the contact officer by 12 noon Monday 13 November 2023.

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MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY BOARD

Councillors Bishop, H. Harrison, Hurley, McLaren, Moores (Chair), Rea, Shuttleworth and Wahid

Item No

- 1 Apologies For Absence
- 2 Urgent Business
Urgent business, if any, introduced by the Chair
- 3 Declarations of Interest
To Receive Declarations of Interest in any Contract or matter to be discussed at the meeting.
- 4 Public Question Time
To receive Questions from the Public, in accordance with the Council's Constitution.
- 5 Minutes of Previous Children and Young People Scrutiny Board Meeting (Pages 1 - 2)
The Minutes of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Board held on 14 September 2023 are attached for approval.
- 6 Operation Sherwood Update
To receive a verbal update from Greater Manchester Police on progress with regard to Operation Sherwood.
- 7 Cross Party CSE Steering Group and the Annual Report (Pages 3 - 12)
To receive and discuss the Annual Report.
- 8 Primary and Secondary Schools Performance (Pages 13 - 18)
To receive and discuss a report submitted by Tony Shepherd regarding Primary and Secondary school outcomes for 2023.
- 9 The LADO annual report (Pages 19 - 30)
To consider and discuss the LADO Annual Report.
- 10 Work Programme 2023-24 (Pages 31 - 34)
To consider and discuss the Work Programme for 2023-24.
- 11 Key Decision Document (Pages 35 - 50)
- 12 Rule 13 and 14
To consider any rule 13 or 14 decisions taken since the previous meeting.



Oldham
Council

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Present: Councillor Moores (Chair)
Councillors Ali, Bishop, H. Harrison, Hurley, McLaren, Rea and Shuttleworth

Also in Attendance:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Matthew Bulmer | Director Education Early Years and Skills |
| Andy Collinge | Head of School Support Services |
| Paul Rogers | Constitutional Services |

1 **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

2 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved; That the minutes of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Board held on the 26 July 2023 be approved as a correct record.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Rev. Hurlston is a governor at Brian Clarke School. Councillor Moores is a governor at Radcliffe, Bluecoat and Moleshill schools, Councillor McLaren is a governor at Radcliffe and Halcyn Way schools and Councillor Shuttleworth is a governor at Lymehurst Primary school.

4 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

5 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions for the Board to consider.

6 **WORK PROGRAMME**

In considering the Children and Young People Work Programme for 2023-24, the Chair informed the Board that it was work in progress.

Resolved: that the Work Programme be noted.

7 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:

That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following four items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information, as defined under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.

UPDATE ON ADDITIONAL SCHOOL PLACES AND ADMISSIONS UPDATE



The Board considered and discussed a report submitted by Andy Collinge, Head of School Support Services which provided a briefing and update to the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Board on the (1) delivery of school places and (2) school place preference rates within the Local Authority (LA.). The report also provided an update on the delivery of additional school places and the work of the Council's Education Support Services including:

- Allocation of school places by ward
- The percentage of residents who are offered a school place of choice (1st or top 3 preferences)
- Overview of the current demand for school places

Matt Bulmer, Director of Education, Skills, and Early Years, informed the Board that with regard to the financial implications regarding the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) programme, he would include this in the work programme with the Board's agreement, and will submit a report to the Board following the publication of the Inclusion Strategy.

Resolved: that subject to the financial implications with regard to SEND being included in the Work Programme, the report be noted.

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 7.10 pm

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION: ELECTED MEMBER STEERING GROUP ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

1 Introduction

This report has been produced as a record of the progress and impact of the Cross-Party Steering Group on Child Sexual Exploitation during its first year in existence.

The first meeting of the group was on 23 November 2022 and the group has met in February, June and October of 2023.

2 Purpose

Oldham Council made a commitment to establishing a cross-party Steering Group at a meeting of Full Council in September 2022 which followed on from the conclusion of the Independent Review into historic safeguarding practices in Oldham, the findings of which have been fully accepted by the Council. The review focussed on multi-agency responses to allegations child sexual exploitation in the borough during the period 2011-14.

In response to the publication of the review the Council has produced a Plan on a Page aimed at supporting survivors of child sexual exploitation and tackling perpetrators of abuse. This is attached at Appendix 1.

The purpose of the Elected Member Steering Group is to provide cross-party oversight of current safeguarding practice and the progress of the Plan to seek justice for and offer support to historic victims of child sexual abuse.

The aim is to raise member awareness, provide scrutiny and assurance on the effectiveness of current practice and to increase public confidence in the partnership response to complex and contextual safeguarding in Oldham.

The objectives of the Steering Group are to:

1. Not duplicate the scope of existing Boards in place but will work alongside the Council's existing governance arrangements.
2. Be provided with assurance on the support to victims both present and historic by way of data and insight reports
3. Be provided with assurance on progress of Operation Sherwood and the support given by the Council to Operation Sherwood by way of data and insight report

4. Be provided with assurance on current complex safeguarding activity and practice within the context of wider children's social care activity by way of data and insight reports
5. With agreement by the Steering Group, request and receive detail in relation to current safeguarding practice and be able to make suggestions to improve processes and practice in place
6. Have the ability to refer any matters for additional information or advice to the independent Chair of the Oldham Safeguarding Children's Partnership

The Steering Group will provide reports to Council summarising matters considered within the 12-month period. A minimum of one report within each municipal year will be presented however, there may be more should the Steering Group feel it has something to report.

The Group is not a decision-making body. Any proposed changes to process/current practice that requires a decision will be referred to the appropriate decision-making forum in line with the Council's Constitution/Schemes of Delegation. What actions the decision-making bodies make on such matters referred to them will be formally reported back to the Steering Group.

The Terms of Reference for the group are attached at Appendix 2.

3 Progress over the last 12 months

a) November 2022

At the first meeting held on Wednesday, 23rd November 2022 Members were reminded of the purpose of the Steering Group and the Terms of Reference as agreed at the meeting of Full Council in September 2022. It was agreed that the Terms of Reference would be reviewed in 6 months' time.

Members were provided with a presentation which summarised the discussions at the All-Member workshop held in August and the outcome of the Joint Safeguarding Board workshop held in September. The workshop was jointly hosted by Oldham Safeguarding Children Partnership and Oldham Safeguarding Adults Board and was designed to ensure that agencies have a full understanding of the learning from both the Oldham Independent Review and the national Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) programme. The event sought assurance about how services have changed over the last few years, adopting new ways of working that ensure a more responsive and inclusive approach to tackling the organised exploitation of children and young people in Oldham.

Members of the Steering Group were advised that the Joint Complex and Contextual Safeguarding subgroup and Transitions Hub were reviewing their Terms of Reference following on from the event to incorporate all age exploitation and ensure survivors of exploitation are supported by multi-agency responses. A further Joint Safeguarding event to review progress will be held early in 2023.

The Group received an update from Greater Manchester Police on the progress of Operation Sherwood which is a large-scale operation in response to the survivors identified as part of the Independent Review. Members were assured that they will be kept up to date with all arrests made in connection with the operation.

The Managing Director Children and Young People Services, updated Members on the work the Council has undertaken in reviewing our support to victims. This includes ensuring that the views of survivors of exploitation inform and shape our response to support and detection. This is being facilitated by KOGS (Keeping our Girls Safe) which has been commissioned by the Council to undertake this work.

Members received a presentation on the National Report of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA). This is a set of reports that sets out the main findings about the extent to which state and non-state institutions failed in their duty of care to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation and makes recommendations for reform. The Inquiry held 325 days of public hearings. It processed over two million pages of evidence and heard from 725 witnesses. The Inquiry has also published 61 reports and publications. Over 7,300 victims and survivors engaged with the work of the Inquiry. More than 700 gave evidence at public hearings or provided statements. The Inquiry heard repeatedly how institutions prioritised their own reputations, and those of individuals within them, above the protection of children. Many lacked appropriate policies and procedures. There are 20 recommendations noted in the report. Greater Manchester have undertaken a piece of work to consider the recommendations at a GM level and the LGA / ADASS and DCS networks are also considering the recommendations. Within Oldham we are currently analysing all the recommendations and considering what they mean for Oldham.

The Chief Executive of KOGS provided Members with an overview of the organisation and its history. It was established in 2011 and was set up to address the gaps in service provision to young people around prevention and early intervention by educating young people on unhealthy relationships and supporting those that had been groomed or exploited. KOGS works with schools / colleges, offer workshops which are held across communities in Oldham, counselling both 1:1 and group sessions, mentoring. The group agreed that work should be undertaken to understand the support in place for males who are subjected to abuse.

b) February 2023

The Group was updated on a recent communication campaign, held over a period of two weeks, focussing on raising awareness of Complex and Contextual Safeguarding. An update was provided by Cllr Rea on a workshop that was organised in Failsworth to raise awareness amongst parents of young girls, although it was noted that more needed to be done to increase parent and carer engagement in the process.

Members were also updated on the Complex and Contextual Safeguarding Action Plan which takes into account key messages from the Historic Review and recommendations from the Joint Workshop which was held.

The following actions were noted as being completed:

- The Adult Safeguarding and Exploitation Strategy and Joint OSCP and OSAB Transitions Policy have been approved and implemented.
- The Joint Safeguarding Transitions Subgroup have also reviewed their TOR to incorporate exploitation.
- Each partnership has committed to an All-Age Exploitation Strategy

A case study was presented to the Group as part of this item.

The Steering Group were appraised on the progress of the Council Communications Strategy to raise awareness of the learning from the Oldham Review and how to spot signs of child sexual exploitation and take the appropriate action.

Members noted that work has also progressed on the following areas:

- A review of all of our safeguarding web pages, making sure the language and information was accessible as possible.
- A dedicated space in each addition of Oldham Council Working for You that profiles what the MASH and KOGS do.
- Promoting World Social Workday, giving thanks to our dedicated social work teams whilst also promoting how to get in contact with them.
- Promoting training sessions that took place in education settings for young people around spotting the signs of abuse.
- Regular posts on spotting the signs of abuse on our social media channels, particularly on Tik Tok which is increasingly popular among younger people.

The Council Communications Team will continue to work closely with KOGS to ensure that communication activity is sense checked by experts by experience.

Members also received update on the Complex Safeguarding Peer Review which has been undertaken in Oldham led by the Greater Manchester Complex Safeguarding Hub which identified the following strengths in Oldham:

- It is evident that progress has been made from previous peer reviews
- Allocation decisions set clear objectives and timescales
- There is evidence of management oversight
- The social care staffing has been increased to reflect the increasing demand
- Daily and weekly governance is attended by a range of partners
- Weekly governance enables young people not open to the service to be highlighted and monitored should concerns escalate
- The duty Complex Safeguarding Social Worker sits in MASH and in strategy meetings to provide consultation advice
- There is post 18 support for young people who consent to the continued offer from the Complex Safeguarding Team
- Peer mapping is actioned for every young person

- There is evidence of joint supervision and good working relationships with the area social workers
- Examples of the Complex Safeguarding Social Worker being persistent in trying to engage young people and considering age, vulnerability and young people's preferences in doing this.
- The Complex Safeguarding Team were able to reflect on decisions/actions and highlight where they could have done things differently
- The Complex Safeguarding Team demonstrated a genuine willingness to learn and develop
- During the meetings and case discussions there was evidence of a strong multi agency partnership approach

The Chief Executive KOGS updated the Group on progress through the use of case studies from survivors and the work that KOGS continue to provide and deliver services to survivors. Since being commissioned by the Council KOGS have spoken with 40 women regarding their experiences and are producing a spoken word presentation to share at a future Member Workshop.

c) June 2023

GMP updated the group on Operation Sherwood progress with support being offered to survivors. An update to All Councillors will be provided as part of the Steering Groups Annual Report to the meeting of Full Council.

Chief Executive KOGS shared the experiences of survivors and the work that KOGS continue to provide and deliver. It was explained that KOGS use the term non-recent rather than historic when referring to survivors' experiences. A number of survivors real voices were heard during the presentation, although their identify was protected.

Members received a progress report on the work of the Complex and Contextual Safeguarding Hub. 168 referrals have been received since July 2022 of which 122 received intervention with the remaining signposted to other services including KOGS 68 were relating to CSE and 76 relating to dual Contextual and Complex Safeguarding. 54 cases are open to the Complex Safeguarding Hub between the ages of 10 – 20 years old. 25% of children and young people currently receiving support have SEND needs and 25% have speech and language needs.

Members were also informed on the work of the Council and its partners on the prevention of exploitation. This included the work being undertaken with the Communications Team to share positive messages on social media. Training has been delivered to schools re: online safety and increased awareness of complex and contextual safeguarding. Schools have reached out to request training to parents. During the week of action (13 – 24 March), the Hub delivered training/briefings to 2,500 pupils across 9 schools, 3 mosques and 5 residential homes. Feedback from a

School and young person was shared to the group as part of the presentation. The Leader asked that children with SEND and SAL are prioritised across the system.

The Managing Director of Children and Young People's Services presented the group with the specific findings of the national Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse. The following recommendations of the Inquiry alongside Government's response were noted by the group:

1. Compile and publish a single core data set covering both England and Wales on a regular basis. **Agreed by Government**
2. Create Child Protection Authorities for England and Wales to improve child protection practice, provide advice to government on child protection policy and reform, inspect institutions, and monitor implementation of the Inquiry's recommendations. **Agreed as part of the Stable Homes, Built on Love Strategy.**
3. Create a Minister for Children for both the UK and Welsh governments. **Not agreed as Government believes role fulfilled by Secretary of State for Education.**
4. Commission regular campaigns to increase public awareness of child sexual abuse, which should be continuously evaluated to measure impact. **Agreed.**
5. Ban the use of techniques which deliberately induce pain in youth justice settings. **Not agreed.**
6. Give children in care the ability to challenge aspects of local authority decision making by amending the Children Act 1989. **Government believes Stable Homes, Built on Love Strategy to deliver on this.**
7. Create a registration system for care staff in children's homes. This should be through an independent body which sets, maintains and enforces standards. **Agreed by Government.**
8. Introduce a registration system for care staff in young offender institutions and secure training centres. **Government exploring how this will work.**
9. Extend the use of the barred list to anyone recruiting an individual to work or volunteer with children on a frequent basis. **Accepted - subject to feasibility study.**
10. Improve compliance with the statutory duty to notify the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) through inspections, arrangements to refer breaches to the police and an information sharing protocol between the DBS and regulator. **Agreed by Government.**
11. Introduce legislation to allow enhanced checks of citizens and residents of England and Wales who apply to work or volunteer outside the UK. **To be reviewed.**
12. Make it mandatory for internet companies to pre-screen material for known child sexual abuse images before it is uploaded. **UK Online Safety Bill to address this.**
13. Introduce laws requiring anyone working in regulated activity, a position of trust or as a police officer, to report child sexual abuse if they receive a disclosure, witness, or observe recognised indicators of child sexual abuse. **Accepted and propose a mandatory reporting regime for child sexual abuse subject to full public consultation.**

14. Commission an inspection of compliance with the Victims' Code in cases of child sexual abuse. **Accepted and to be considered through the Victims and Prisoners Bill.**
15. Remove the time limit for compensation claims by people who have been sexually abused. **Accepted and to consult on strengthening judicial guidance and options to reform limitation law.**
16. Provide specialist therapeutic support for all children who have experienced sexual abuse across England and Wales. **Accepted and will consult on systemic changes to provision.**
17. Introduce a code of practice on keeping and accessing records about child sexual abuse. **Accepted and will engage with the Information Commissioners Office**
18. Extend the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme. **Accepted and will consult on amending scope and time limits.**
19. Set up a single redress scheme, to provide some monetary compensation for people who were sexually abused in institutions in England and Wales. **Accepted and will consult with interested parties.**
20. Ensure internet companies introduce age verification systems. **Accepted. Online Safety Bill to deliver.**

The Group was kept updated on the progress of Rochdale Review and Members were assured that the meeting would receive an update up when the outcome and any learning from that review can be shared.

The Group were informed that the Council's communication strategy continues to focus on building trust and confidence in the Council's services to survivors and those contacting the council for help and guidance. An update was also provided on the training scheduled for Members.

d) October 2023

At the final meeting of the year, the Steering Group received a presentation on the Complex Safeguarding Annual report from the Assistant Director, Social Work Services. The report is produced in order to provide assurance to Members, partners and the wider public on the quality and effectiveness of the Council's services for children and young people at risk of criminal, contextual and sexual exploitation. The report will be circulated to the Steering Group and published following sign off by Oldham Safeguarding Children's Partnership.

The meeting heard from the Managing Director, Children and Young People Services regarding the Greater Manchester Assurance Statement, which had been circulated to the meeting in advance. This has been produced by all 10 GM authorities to provide assurance on the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements to tackle child sexual exploitation as part of the conclusion of the GM Independent Review. The Assurance Statement was submitted on 29 September 2023 and the final report will be published by GMCA towards the end of the year.

The Assistant Director, Safeguarding and Quality Assurance summarised the key areas of the statement on how Oldham Council has significantly improved

safeguarding practices and is working collaboratively with key partners and stakeholders. The development of the multi-agency Complex Safeguarding Hub was highlighted as an example of the progress that has been made in Oldham since the period highlighted in the Independent Review into Oldham. The Assurance Statement also identified much more robust governance and performance management processes are now in place in line with the GM Complex Safeguarding procedures and performance frameworks. This includes processes to review cases of children and young people at risk, including those missing from home and daily risk meetings are held.

Independent oversight of the progress and impact of the Complex Safeguarding Hub has been provided to the Council and partners through Peer Reviews which have been undertaken in partnership with other GM authorities and overseen by the GM Complex Safeguarding Hub, as well as Ofsted. The Peer Reviews in 2019, 2020 and 2022 have evidenced good progress being made as well as areas for improvement. Peer Reviews were suspended in 2021 due to Covid.

The meeting received a brief outline of the Council's commitment to produce a Survivors Charter for survivors of child sexual exploitation. This work is being undertaken in partnership with statutory partners and the voluntary sector to ensure that the experience and voice of survivors shapes the work.

The meeting also received a presentation on the work of the Council in education settings including primary and secondary schools to prevent exploitation. This was led by the Safeguarding Partnership Education Training Officer who spoke about early prevention, consent and healthy relationships, online safety and behaviours. These sessions are delivered to pupils, parents and carers, foster carers, children's social care staff, residential care home staff, school staff and multi-agency professionals.

The role of Safeguarding Advisor is to deliver relevant age appropriate and support to school staff, Designated Safeguarding Leads and school governors. A case study was shared which evidenced awareness raising where a child, following a training session in school, came forward as he felt he was at risk of exploitation and as a result a report was made to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) and the young man is now receiving support from school and services.

Members felt that the presentations provided assurance that schools are engaging well and would be supportive of the Council's commitment to ensure all children and young people are aware of what exploitation means and how to access support.

The Steering Group was appraised of the proposed changes to Working Together to Safeguarding Children to include education providers as statutory partners. This will support the Council's work in schools, and it will be a priority of Oldham Safeguarding Children's Partnership to ensure that education fulfils its statutory duties.

Greater Manchester Police provided an update on the work of GMP in relation to current and historic child sexual exploitation. GMP are committing significant

resources to tackling exploitation which includes 1 Detective Inspector, 2 Detective Sergeants, 6 Police Constables. The strength of working relationships between GMP and Children's Social Care was emphasised in tackling exploitation. Members were assured that there were a number of serious and complex investigations ongoing which are progressing at pace and the investigation stage of Operation Sherwood is embedded with the first arrest being made. A number of anonymised case studies were shared with the Group. Finally, GMP confirmed that the force has also completed a GM Assurance Statement which would also be shared with the Steering Group.

Keeping Our Girls Safe provided an update on their work with survivors of non-recent exploitation. This includes direct work as well as referrals onto other agencies. Over the last 12 months KOGS has supported 65 young women who have come forward for support. A case example was shared with the group which illustrated how much effort is required to support a disclosure and the length of time often needed to get to that point where a survivor feels able to disclose. The Complex Safeguarding Hub has worked with KOGS to support the individual concerned who has finally decided to report the abuse they experienced. Other examples were shared, and the group acknowledged the commitment from across all partners to ensuring that survivors are able to access support and perpetrators are being pursued.

Members received an update on the Council's Communication Strategy and the work that is being done to publicly promote how to access support around child sexual exploitation including with the Complex Safeguarding Hub and KOGS. This is being done via the Council website and its newsletter, Oldham Council Working for You. Alternative mechanisms for sharing stories and links with younger audiences is being explored and an example of TikTok messaging was shared with the Steering Group. Parent and child friendly versions will be developed as it was noted that content should be adapted for both audiences. The Council has been offered access to the GMP young person's forum in order to assist with the development of this work.

5 Conclusion

This report summarises the assurance work undertaken by the Steering Group overseen during the first 12 months in existence.

The report will be presented to Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee in November and circulated to members of the Steering Group in advance.



Appendix 1 Oldham
Plan on a Page.docx



Appendix 2 Terms
of reference CSE Men

Harry Catherall
Chief Executive
Oldham Council

24 October 2023

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Briefing Note

Date: 23rd October 2023

Subject:

Primary and Secondary school outcomes for 2023

For Information

Portfolio holder:

Cllr Ali

Report of:

Tony Shepherd
Tony.Shepherd@oldham.gov.uk

Sign-off:

Matthew Bulmer

Summary:

Key Stage (KS) outcomes for 2023 show that Oldham school standards are recovering from the negative impact of the pandemic in primary and are improved since the last comparable results in secondary. Most gaps to national averages are narrowing and benchmarked performance shows consequent improvement. Outcomes for disadvantaged pupils continues to be a strength. The impact of additional resource over time and local partnership strategic prioritisation has been pivotal to improvement.

Background:

School-age children take standardised national assessments in year 1 and at the end of KS1, KS2 and KS4. The data from these assessments is shared to enable comparison of performance across schools, boroughs and regions.

Pupils take the phonics screening check at the end of year 1, typically aged 6. Those who do not meet the expected standard take the check again at the end of year 2, typically aged 7.

Pupils are assessed at the end of KS 1 (year 2) in reading, writing, maths and science. Teachers are responsible for judging the standards in English reading, English writing, mathematics, and science. To help inform those judgements, pupils sit national curriculum assessments in English and mathematics, commonly called SATs.

Pupils are assessed at the end of KS 2 (year 6) in English grammar, punctuation and spelling, English reading and mathematics. English writing and science are reported as a teacher assessment judgement.

During KS 4 most pupils work towards national qualifications - usually GCSEs. Pupils are assessed at the end of KS 4 (year 11) in the compulsory national curriculum subjects of English, maths and science and a range of foundation and other subjects.

KS 1

| KS1 -Phonics (Year 1) | 2022 Oldham | 2023 Oldham | 2023 National | 2023 NW |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| All Pupils | 72.4 | 75.6 | 78.9 | 78.2 |
| National | 75.5 | 78.9 | | |
| Disadvantaged | 65.3 | 68.2 | 66.7 | 66.7 |
| Other Pupils | 75.2 | 78.5 | 82.2 | 81.9 |
| SEND (SEN Support & EHCP) | 36.8 | 35.5 | 42.2 | 41.4 |
| Non-SEND | 78.9 | 85.1 | 85.9 | 85.4 |

The improvement in phonics outcomes in Oldham (3.2) was less than the improvement nationally (3.4) between 2022 and 2023. Non-SEND pupils made the largest gain. Phonics benchmarks are not available.

| KS1 Reading, Writing and Maths EXS+ | 2022 Oldham | 2023 Oldham |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| All Pupils | 44.7 | 51.6 |
| National | 53.4 | 56.0* |
| Disadvantaged | 36.0 | 41.9 |
| Other Pupils | 48.7 | 56.2 |
| SEND (SEN Support & EHCP) | 11.8 | 14.5 |
| Non-SEND | 51.5 | 60.5 |

*provisional from NEXUS

The improvement in KS1 Reading, Writing and Maths in Oldham (6.9) is greater than the improvement nationally (2.6) between 2022 and 2023. This reduces the gap to national to 4.4 which is more in-line with the gap in 2019 of 4.1. KS1 benchmarks are not available.

KS 2

| KS2 - RWM EXS+ | 2019 Oldham | 2022 Oldham | 2023 Oldham | 2023 National | 2023 NW |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| All Pupils | 62.7 | 51.6 | 54.3 | 59.5 | 58.2 |
| National | 65.3 | 58.7 | 59.5 | | |
| Disadvantaged | 53.8 | 40.0 | 43.8 | 44.1 | 43.3 |
| Other Pupils | 68.4 | 58.4 | 61.1 | 66.0 | 65.6 |
| SEND (SEN Support & EHCP) | 22.7 | 14.4 | 17.6 | 20.2 | 19.6 |
| Non-SEND | 72 | 61.2 | 64.5 | 69.8 | 68.8 |

| Year | 2019 Oldham | 2022 Oldham | 2023 Oldham |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Benchmark (of 151) | 118 | 148 | 137 |

The improvement in KS2 Reading, Writing and Maths in Oldham (2.7) is greater than the improvement nationally (0.8) between 2022 and 2023. This reduces the gap to national to 5.2 which is closing to the gap in 2019 of 2.6. Stronger than national improvements were seen in Oldham with Writing up 5.5, Maths up 2.4 and GPS up 1. Benchmarked performance has improved to 137/152.

KS 4

| KS4 (5 to 9) in English and Maths | 2019 Oldham | 2023 Oldham | 2023 National | 2023 Stat Neighbours | 2023 NW |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|---------|
| All Pupils | 35.3 | 38.0 | 45.3 | 39.4 | 41.5 |
| National (State Funded Schools) | 43.4 | 45.3 | | | |
| Disadvantaged | 23.4 | 24.2 | 25.2 | 22.5 | 21.7 |
| Other Pupils | 42.1 | 45.6 | 52.4 | 39.9 | 49.7 |
| SEND (SEN Support & EHCP) | 8.7 | 12.8 | 16.8 | 11.9 | 15.2 |
| Non-SEND | 38.9 | 42.4 | 51.0 | 44.7 | 46.7 |

| Year | KS4 – Attainment (5 to 9) in English and Maths | 2019 | 2023 |
|--------------------|--|------|------|
| Benchmark (of 151) | All Pupils | 135 | 129 |
| | Disadvantaged | 69 | 59 |
| | SEND (SEN Support & EHCP) | 130 | 115 |

The improvement in KS4 attainment (2.7) in Oldham is greater than improvement nationally (1.9) for the most recent comparable outcomes in 2019 and 2023. The benchmark performance rose to 129/151. The performance of Oldham disadvantaged cohort was strong; better than that of statistical neighbours and ranked 59/151 boroughs.

| KS4 - Progress 8 | 2019 Oldham | 2023 Oldham | 2023 National | 2023 Stat Neighbours | 2023 NW |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|---------|
| All Pupils | -0.39 | -0.18 | -0.03 | -0.14 | -0.20 |
| National | -0.03 | -0.03 | | | |
| Disadvantaged | -0.60 | -0.49 | -0.57 | -0.59 | -0.75 |
| Other Pupils | -0.26 | -0.02 | 0.17 | 0.06 | 0.03 |
| SEND (SEN Support & EHCP) | -1.05 | -0.88 | -0.62 | -0.73 | -0.78 |
| Non-SEND | -0.29 | -0.06 | 0.10 | -0.03 | -0.08 |

| Year | KS4 - Progress 8 | 2019 | 2023 |
|--------------------|---------------------------|------|------|
| Benchmark (of 151) | All Pupils | 144 | 116 |
| | Disadvantaged | 102 | 48 |
| | SEND (SEN Support & EHCP) | 143 | 131 |

The improvement in KS4 progress (0.21) in Oldham is much greater than the improvement nationally (0) for the most recent comparable GCSE outcomes in 2019 and 2023. This results in a much-improved benchmark performance to 116/151 which places the performance between statistical neighbours and the NW average. The performance of Oldham disadvantaged cohort was relatively strong; better than that of statistical neighbours, NW and national average.

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Designated Officer (LADO) Annual Report 2022/23

**Colette Morris
Team Manager
Allegations Management Unit**

September 2023



Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the management of allegations in Oldham, and the role of the Designated Officer between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.

The statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 sets out the requirements for all agencies providing services for children to have procedures in place for reporting and managing allegations against staff and volunteers. This is mirrored in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020 (KCSIE). The guidance highlights the need for a Designated Officer to oversee the process, by giving independent advice on thresholds and the other aspects of safeguarding when an allegation is made. This will include a range of measures, in consultation with the employer, including risk assessment, the use of suspension for more serious conduct matters or criminal investigations, alongside other issues including managing duty of care to the employee and proportionality to ensure the process is concluded fairly and as soon as possible.

The procedures for the management of such allegations are contained in the Greater Manchester Child Protection Procedures - Allegations against Staff.

The role of the LADO

The LADO role is designed to manage all allegations against all professionals who work with children (both employed and voluntary) and to assist professionals, to create safer environments for children to access services. Therefore, if the LADO is effective then children and young people can confidently access services safely.

The definition of an allegation is:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed or may have harmed a child;
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child;
- Behaved towards a child that indicated he/she would pose a risk of harm if they work regularly or closely with children.
- Behaved in a way that indicates they are unsuitable to work with children.

Allegations are considered in the context of four main categories of abuse, including sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse and neglect and there is also consideration of areas including professional conduct and safeguarding concerns arising in a person's private life. Transferable risk is a continuing consideration, this means that when the behaviour of staff or volunteers outside a setting is of concern, there is consideration of the impact of this upon their suitability to work with children and vulnerable young people.

The duties of the LADO remain to:

- Manage and oversee individual cases
- Provide advice and guidance
- Liaise with Police and other agencies
- Monitor progress of cases for timeliness, thoroughness and fairness

The LADO will also provide liaison with other local authority LADOs where there are cross-boundary issues. The service collects strategic data and maintains a confidential tracker in relation to allegations. The LADO Service disseminates learning from LADO enquiries throughout the children's workforce and wider groups, including safeguarding forums across the Borough. The LADO will also attend children's social care and police strategy meetings held under child protection procedures where there are concerns regarding the children of those working within the children's workforce.

Service Structure and Supervision

The LADO service is located within the Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Service. The service is provided by one Designated Officer with one Allegation Management Co-ordinator. In 2022 the funding for a second permanent LADO post was agreed and the recruitment process for this post commenced.

The LADO is an experienced qualified social worker registered with Social Work England. The LADO attends the annual national Designated Officer conference and monthly regional LADO forum where practice themes are discussed. The National Designated Officer network is currently working with the DfE to produce a LADO handbook to be included in Working Together 2024. This was a recommendation of the national review – children with complex needs and disabilities (Doncaster review)

Since 1st April 2020 all Initial Evaluation meetings and LADO meetings have been arranged via Microsoft Teams, and this has allowed colleagues who wouldn't normally be able to attend these meetings due to distance involved, to attend virtually and contribute, hence improving the quality of information shared. This is evidenced through meetings not being required to be rearranged and an improvement in the timeliness of Initial Evaluation Meetings and Post Allegation Investigation meetings.

The LADO service participated in a regional peer audit exercise in January 2023. This involved auditing several cases and files from a neighbouring authority and then the process reciprocated. The outcome of the Oldham Audit was one outstanding case (clear recording and easy to understand with the involvement of all the agencies and timescales adhered to) and one case deemed as good (clear recording and easy to understand).

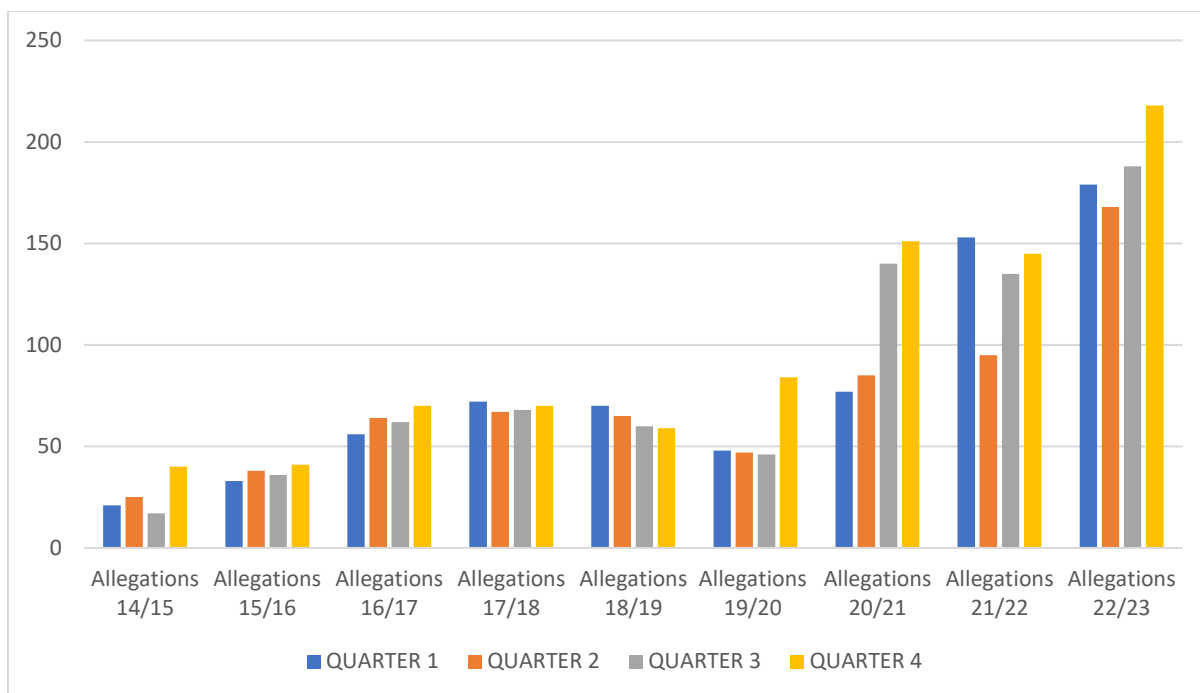
Number of Allegations

Breakdown of allegations by year

| YEAR | Number of allegations |
|------|-----------------------|
| 2007 | 44 |
| 2008 | 77 |
| 2009 | 71 |
| 2010 | 73 |
| 2011 | 74 |
| 2012 | 69 |
| 2013 | 98 |
| 2014 | 101 |
| 2015 | 147 |
| 2016 | 223 |
| 2017 | 277 |
| 2018 | 265 |
| 2019 | 221 |
| 2020 | 356 |
| 2021 | 543 |
| 2022 | 679 |

Over the years the understanding of the role of the LADO both locally and nationally has increased and this is reflected in the steady rise of referrals. The significant increase in referrals since 2020 is linked to several factors:

1. Several complex cases that have multiple lines of enquiry and have generated multiple referrals.
2. An increase in non-recent allegations of abuse.
3. In September 2020 the DfE included a Fourth Threshold for referral to LADO within Working Together guidance and KCSIE. This significantly increased the number of contacts to LADO regarding unsuitability.
4. Increase in the number of parents/members of the public reporting concerns directly to Ofsted and or LADO service.



The referral data above includes all contacts with the LADO, regardless of whether they have met the threshold for a formal response. Of the 730 referrals, 158 (which is equivalent to 22%) progressed to an Initial Allegations management meeting. There are a high number of requests for support and advice which the LADO will scrutinise even if they do not meet the formal thresholds for intervention. It has become apparent that not all institutions are equipped to assess thresholds and therefore welcome the support such consultations make. In these cases, the employer is responsible for acting upon advice, implementing local conduct or performance processes and making recommended changes to their local practice or policy. It is these borderline or complex situations that require careful attention.

Recording is robust for all cases, whether or not they meet the LADO threshold for involvement and files are kept for reference. The system now has the following stand-alone documents in a dataflow system within MOSAIC :

- LADO referral
- Initial consideration meeting
- Allegations management meeting
- Review allegations management meeting
- LADO Oversight (ability to record all e-mails and discussions in a chronological order)

All the steps have been reviewed and updated so that more data can be extracted for data analysis and the completion of FOI requests.

It is important that cases where the LADO has only provided advice and information are recorded as such, as whilst on their own may not require a LADO response, they may in the future demonstrate concerns with the practice of individuals or settings.

Careful attention is paid to the requirements of the Data Protection Act and, if settings call for advice regarding a particular staff member, they are advised to share this with the staff member.

The LADO may receive requests from those who are the subject of allegations for a copy of LADO records through a subject access request and all parties are reminded of this during the allegation management meeting. Third party or organisation sensitive information may be redacted by the LADO as appropriate.

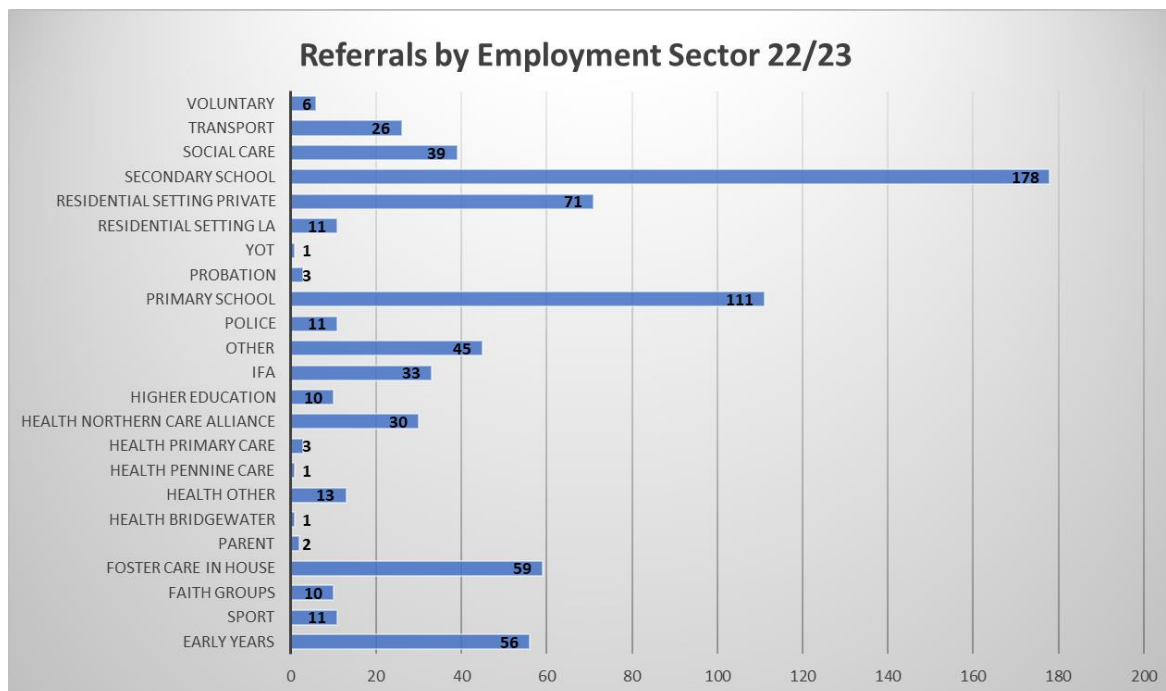
Referral sector

Referrals come from a variety of settings and sources. It is not always the setting that makes the referrals themselves, as demonstrated in the following graph.



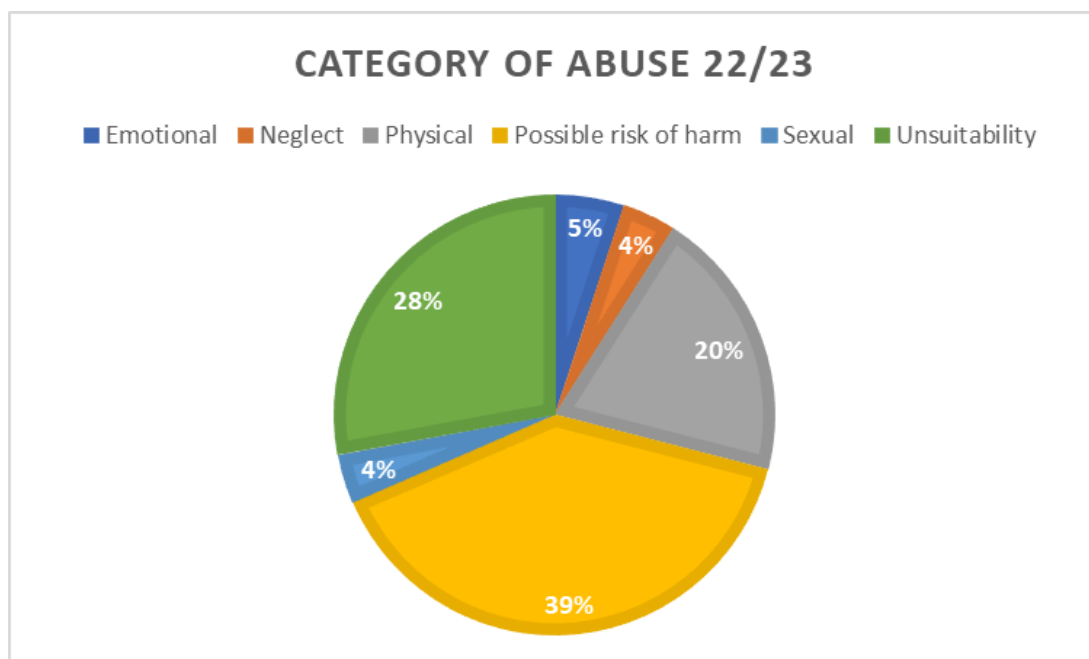
As with LADO colleagues in neighbouring boroughs, the greatest proportion of contacts and referrals come from social care and the education sector. This is in line with national statistics and indicates a good level of understanding of Safeguarding and the LADO role. The LADO received a significant number of referrals from other local authority Social care departments due to the increasing number of children from other local authorities placed in Oldham in either IFA's or Residential homes. Work has been undertaken with the planning department and commissioning teams to highlight the number of homes in a specific area and to have careful consideration for any future planning applications.

Employment sector



A significant number of referrals are within the education sector, but this is in line with regional and national data. The number of referrals made directly to Ofsted has significantly increased with the LADO receiving on average 5 referrals a month. As set out in KCSIE, schools are now required to identify and record incidents where staff do not follow expected codes of conduct in working with children. Incidents such as inappropriate contact, and poor behaviour management which do not meet the allegations threshold should be recorded and patterns of behaviour considered. The intention was for schools to develop a safeguarding culture where inappropriate behaviours could be identified and addressed before they became harmful. However, initially schools struggled to differentiate between low level concerns and harmful.

Category of abuse



The most common type of referral this year relates to staffing, this is primarily related to professional boundaries and inappropriate professional behaviour.

Most of the allegations of sexual assault have been in relation to non-recent allegations of abuse. There has been an increase over the years of allegations relating to emotional abuse and neglect and this demonstrates the increasing understanding of safeguarding across the sectors and also therefore the identification of these harmful behaviours. The increase in possible risk of harm is connected to the increase in allegation around unsuitality whereby the person has not caused harm within their role, but consideration is needed regarding the transferable risk/unsuitality.

Timescales for completion of cases

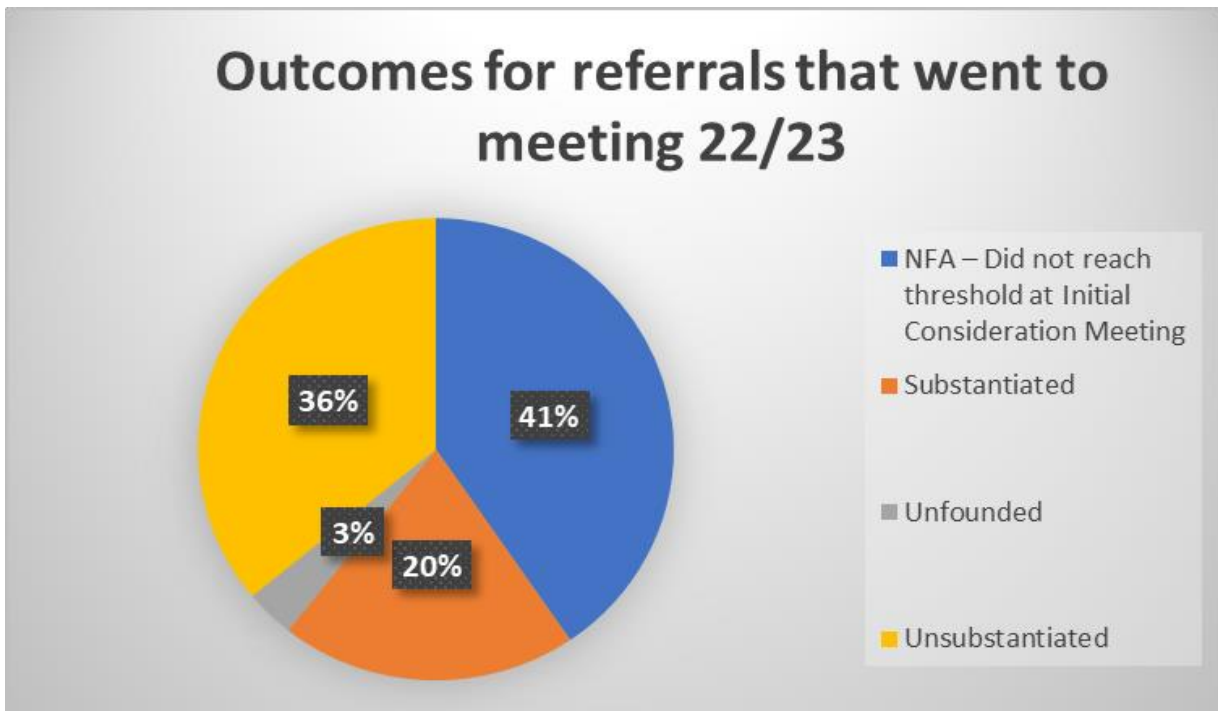
Timescales depend on nature, seriousness, and complexity of allegations though in general, in Oldham for cases that have reached the threshold for an Allegations management meeting we strive to meet the following timescales:

- 80% of cases should be resolved within one month;
- 90% within three months;
- All but the most exceptional should be completed within twelve months (it is unlikely cases requiring a criminal prosecution or complex Police investigation can be completed in less than three months)

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|-----|
| Cases concluded within 1 month | - | 72% |
| Cases completed within 3 months | - | 87% |
| Cases completed within 12 months | - | 93% |

As can be seen we have not been able to reach the targets for the timeliness of completion of cases. It is hoped that with the recruitment of a second LADO the cases concluded in 1 month will reach the target of 80%. Whilst it is no longer an indicator required to be reported on by the Department of Education, where an investigation is initiated, investigations can be stressful for all concerned and clearly the quicker they can be concluded appropriately, the better. Where allegations are investigated by employers, oversight by the LADO can ensure that the matter is concluded in a timely manner. However, there remain some cases where investigations take longer, and these are primarily as a result of police investigations where the “beyond reasonable doubt” threshold requires lengthier processes.

Outcome of referrals



We have seen an increase in allegations about professional boundaries/ inappropriate behaviour and unsuitability allowing issues to be considered at an initial consideration meeting but not progressing to a formal investigation.

Multi-agency Practice Development

The LADO provides managing allegations training. Training delivery was consistently delivered virtually and well received by those who attended. The virtual delivery of training worked very well, and 15 sessions of training was delivered to partner agencies. This included early years, education, elected members, social workers, MASH team, adult social care and fostering service.

Residential Managers Providers panel – A quarterly meeting is held with all providers of residential care within the Oldham area. This allows statutory agencies to discuss trends and concerns and assist the providers to meet their Ofsted requirements.

Education settings - The Designated Officer works closely with the School Safeguarding Advisor to discuss concerns in practice and learning arising from LADO referrals and complaints. Joint work is carried out where appropriate

Foster carers - The LADO attends the 6 weekly 'prep' groups for prospective foster carers and provides a bespoke training session for cares about the role of the LADO using case examples to illustrate the importance of communication, recording and the scrutiny of low-level concerns. In 2022/23 the LADO has attended a fortnightly meeting with the HOS and Team manager of the fostering team to discuss the fostering referrals that have been recover and tracking them through the system. This has proved effective and has addressed some drift.

National LADO Network

The NLN meets virtually on a monthly basis, providing similar support to LADOs across the country. In addition, the NLN meets regularly with national organisations such as the Department of Education, Social Work England, and the Disqualification and Barring Service, acting as an advocate for LADOs and local authorities in relation to allegations management and safer recruitment practises. The network organised an annual virtual conference which was open to all LADOs and was positively received by over 180 participants. The Oldham LADO chairs the training group and facilitates the NLN conference.

Priorities for 2024

1. Integrate the additional LADO post (commencing November 2023)
2. Work with the Mosaic Team to implement changes to the documents to reflect the changes in guidance e.g. unsuitability. Also to adapt the episodes to allow further data capture e.g number of non-recent allegations and number of meetings held within 5 working days. This can then be submitted quarterly via the OSCP dashboard.
3. Introduce a regular programme of auditing to understand quality of service being offered and to identify themes to share with multiagency partners to inform learning and development.
4. Develop the safe out of school programme.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES SCRUTINY BOARD

DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Wednesday, 26 th July 2023 | Family Hubs Programme | To receive an update on the Family Hubs Programme | Matthew Bulmer – Director of Education | Councillor Shaid Mushtaq Cabinet Member for Children and Young People |
| | Children’s Transformation Programme | To receive an update on the Children’s Transformation Programme | Matthew Bulmer – Director of Education | Councillor Shaid Mushtaq Cabinet Member for Children and Young People |
| 14 th September 2023 | Repeat Referrals in Children’s Social Care | To receive an update on re-referral performance, an overview of the five key themes relating to the re-referral rate and actions to ensure close management of this key performance indicator | Managing Director – Children and Young People. Julie Daniels - Director of Children’s Social Care | Councillor Shaid Mushtaq Cabinet Member for Children and Young People |
| | Update on Additional School Places and Admissions Update Report | Annual Update Report/performance report | Andy Collinge, Head of School Support Services | Councillor Mohon Ali – portfolio holder for Education and Skills |
| | Children’s Services - update on financial performance and Improvement Plan (6-month update) | To receive updates in respect of financial performance in Children’s Services and delivery of the Improvement | Gerard Jones – Managing Director for Children’s Services and Julie Daniels – Director of Children’s Social Care Services | Councillor Mohon Ali – portfolio holder for Education and Skills |

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | Councillor Shaid Mushtaq Cabinet Member for Children and Young People |
| | Primary and Secondary School Performance | To receive an update on key performance indicators | Portfolio – Children and Young People. Managing Director – Children and Young People Matthew Bulmer - Director of Education & Tony Shepherd – Assistant Director | Councillor Mohon Ali – portfolio holder for Education and Skills |
| 16 th November 2023 | LADO Annual report | To Receive and Discuss the annual report | ; | Portfolio – Children and Young People. Attendees: Gerard Jones, Managing Director Children and Young People Julie Daniels, Director of Children’s Social Care Colette Morris, LADO |
| | Primary and Secondary School Outcomes | To receive and discuss | | Portfolio – Education and Skills Attendees: Gerard Jones, Managing Director Children and Young People Matt Bulmer, Director of Education, Skills and Early Years |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | Tony Shepherd, Assistant Director Education and Early Years |
| | CSE Steering Group Annual Report. Operation Shepherd | To receive and consider the annual report. To receive an update on the progress of Operation Shepherd from Greater Manchester Police. | | |
| 18 th January 2024 | Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) | To receive an update on participation and NEET rates and on activities looking to ensure appropriate opportunities for 16–18-year-olds. | Managing Director – Children and Young People. Amanda Youlden, Education and Skills Officer. | Councillor Shaid Mushtaq Cabinet Member for Children and Young People Councillor Mohon Ali – portfolio holder for Education and Skills |
| | Youth Council | Annual Report on events and activities commissioned by the Youth Council | Managing Director – Children and Young People | Councillor Shaid Mushtaq Cabinet Member for Children and Young People Councillor Mohon Ali – portfolio holder for Education and Skills |
| | Regional Adoption Agency – update: to scrutinise delivery and financing of adoption services in the Borough. | Annual Report | Julie Daniels - Director of Children's Social Care/Karen Brannick, Head of Adoption Now; | Councillor Shaid Mushtaq Cabinet Member for Children and Young People |
| | Safeguarding Annual Report | To receive and consider the Board's Annual | Dr Henri Giller, Chair of the Board. Portfolio - Children and Young | Councillor Shaid Mushtaq Cabinet Member for Children and Young People |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | Report and Three-Year Strategy. | People and the Business Manager, Oldham Safeguarding Children Partnership. | |
| | Youth Justice Plan 2023/24 | To scrutinise the Youth Justice Plan | Managing Director – Children and Young People. Paul Axon, Chief Executive - Positive Steps | Councillor Shaid Mushtaq Cabinet Member for Children and Young People |
| 26 th March 2024 | Children’s Services - update on financial performance and Improvement Plan (6 month update) | To receive updates in respect of financial performance in Children’s Services and delivery of the Improvement | Gerard Jones – Managing Director for Children’s Services and Julie Daniels – Director of Children’s Social Care Services | Councillor Shaid Mushtaq Cabinet Member for Children and Young People Councillor Mohon Ali – portfolio holder for Education and Skills |
| | | | | |

BUSINESS TO BE PROGRAMMED:

1. Update on Operation Sherwood
2. Oral health services for children
3. Report from the Children in Care Council
4. Strategic Framework for Oldham’s Children and Young People (potential study group topic)

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| New! | Special education needs and/or disabilities (SEND) & Inclusion Strategy 2023 - 2027 | | September 2023 | Cabinet |
| Description: Document(s) to be considered in public or private: | | | | |
| | Report of the Director of Finance – Treasury Management 2023/24 – Quarter 1 Report | Director of Finance | September 2023 | Cabinet |
| Description: The Quarter 1 review of Treasury Management activity during the first Quarter of 2023/24. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Report of the Director of Finance – Treasury Management Review 2023/24 – Quarter 1 Report Background Documents: Appendices Report to be considered in Public | | | | |
| | Service Level Agreement with Miocare Group CIC | Director of Adult Social Care (DASS) | September 2023 | Cabinet |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|--|--|--|---------------------|--|
| <p>Description: The report seeks approval on the implementation of a refreshed Service Level Agreement with Miocare Group CIC, for a range of services provided.</p> <p>The report also seeks a commitment for wider Council colleagues to work with Miocare Group CIC to develop Service Level Agreements and specifications of requirements for those corporate services that Miocare Group CIC “buys back” from the Council.</p> <p>Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Cabinet report, Impact assessment, Service Level Agreement. Private due to commercial interests of the Council and Miocare Group CIC</p> | | | | |
| Page 36 | Report of the Director of Finance – To Procure Digital Process Automation Services for Revenues and Benefits | Director of Finance | Before October 2023 | Cabinet Member - Finance and Corporate Resources |
| <p>Description: A report that seeks approval for the purchase of a Digital Process Automation Service for Revenues and Benefits</p> <p>Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Report to be considered in Private</p> | | | | |
| | Places for Everyone Plan: A Joint Development Plan Document for 9 Greater Manchester Local Authorities (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan) - Proposed Modifications Consultation | Executive Director for Place & Economic Growth | October 2023 | Cabinet |
| <p>Description: Approval, and publication, of proposed modifications to Places for Everyone Plan: A Joint Development Plan Document for 9 Greater Manchester Local Authorities (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan) for consultation.</p> <p>Document(s) to be considered in public or private:</p> | | | | |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|--|--|--|----------------------|--|
| New! | Waste Collection Service | Executive Director for Place & Economic Growth | November 2023 | Cabinet Member - Neighbourhoods |
| Description: Review of Waste Collection Service for domestic and trade. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: N/A | | | | |
| TBC | Oldham Theatre Planning Application | Director of Economy | November 2023 | Cabinet Member - Business, Employment and Enterprise |
| Description: Submission of a planning application for the proposed Oldham Theatre Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Planning application (public) | | | | |
| TBC | Cultural Quarter Public Realm Planning Application | Director of Economy | November 2023 | Cabinet Member - Business, Employment and Enterprise |
| Description: Planning application for the proposed Cultural Quarter Public Realm Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Planning application (public) | | | | |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|---|---|--|----------------------|---|
| New! | VCFSE Investment Fund (One Oldham Fund) | Director of Public Health | Before November 2023 | Cabinet Member - Health and Social Care |
| Description: Decision to invest Covid Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) into the One Oldham Fund. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: | | | | |
| New! | Rubrik Air Gap Backup Solution | | October 2023 | Cabinet |
| Description: Document(s) to be considered in public or private: | | | | |
| New! | Rubrik Air Gap Backup Solution (Part B) | | October 2023 | Cabinet |
| Description: Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Cabinet report - private: Paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and it is not in the public interest to disclose the information because it relates to the financial or business affairs of the Council and a third party. | | | | |
| | Carriageway Investment Funding | Director of Environment | November 2023 | Cabinet |
| Description: Additional funding for carriageway surfacing/treatments Document(s) to be considered in public or private: | | | | |
| | Creating a Better Place - Q2 Update | Executive Director for Place & Economic Growth | October 2023 | Cabinet |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|--|---|--------|----------------------|----------------|
| <p>Description: On 25th July 2022 Cabinet gave delegated approval to enter into a design and build contract for the Spindles Market and Events Project following completion of the second stage tender period with Willmott Dixon Construction (WDC).</p> <p>Following significant progress it is anticipated OMBC will now be in a position to enter contract for the above project in October 2023. The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on the progress made, current project and budget status and seek approval to enter into the contract with Willmott Dixon Construction in October 2023 for the delivery of the Spindles, Market, Events and Archive project.</p> <p>Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Cabinet report - private: Paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and it is not in the public interest to disclose the information because it relates to the financial or business affairs of the Council and a third party.</p> | | | | |
| <p>HSC-14- (23) New!</p> | <p>Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund - Workforce Fund and Urgent and Emergency Care Support Fund</p> | | <p>December 2023</p> | <p>Cabinet</p> |
| <p>Description: Document(s) to be considered in public or private:</p> | | | | |
| | <p>Future Commissioning intentions for the Hospital to Home Service (Care at Home)</p> | | <p>November 2023</p> | <p>Cabinet</p> |
| <p>Description: Document(s) to be considered in public or private:</p> | | | | |
| | <p>Care at Home Market Changes.</p> | | <p>November 2023</p> | <p>Cabinet</p> |
| <p>Description: Document(s) to be considered in public or private:</p> | | | | |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|---|--|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| | Sustainable Oldham Strategic Partnership Agreement | Director of Economy | November 2023 | Cabinet |
| <p>Description: A new single Partnership Agreement to award Transport related civil engineering projects for City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) bids, Levelling Up 2 bids and other related civil engineering related projects. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Cabinet report to follow</p> | | | | |
| New! | Gallery Oldham 'Priority Maintenance Works' | | December 2023 | Cabinet |
| <p>Description: Document(s) to be considered in public or private:</p> | | | | |
| 40 | Report of the Director of Finance – Proposed Consultation for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2024/25 | Director of Finance | November 2023 | Cabinet |
| <p>Description: To update on the proposed consultation process to be undertaken by the Council with regard to the 2024/25 Council Tax Reduction Scheme. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Report of the Director of Finance – Proposed Consultation for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2024/25 Background Documents: Appendices – Various Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | | |
| | Report of the Director of Finance – Treasury Management Strategy Mid -Year Review 2023/24 | Director of Finance | November 2023 | Cabinet |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|------------------------|--|---------------------|---------------|----------------|
| | <p>Description: Review of the performance for the first half of the financial year in relation to the Treasury Management Strategy for 2023/24. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Report of the Director of Finance – Treasury Management Strategy Mid-Year Review 2023/24.</p> <p>Background Documents: Appendices</p> <p>Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | |
| Page 41 | Report of the Director of Finance – Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2023/24 Quarter 2 | Director of Finance | November 2023 | Cabinet |
| | <p>Description: The report provides an update on the Council’s 2023/24 forecast revenue budget position and the financial position of the capital programme as at the period ending 30 September 2023 (Quarter 2) Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Report of the Director of Finance – Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2023/24 Quarter 2</p> <p>Background Documents: Appendices – Various</p> <p>Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | |
| | Report of the Director of Finance – Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2024/25 | Director of Finance | December 2023 | Cabinet |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| | <p>Description: To determine the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2024/25 Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Report of the Director of Finance – Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2024/25</p> <p>Background Documents: Appendices – Various</p> <p>Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | |
| Page 42 | Report of the Director of Finance and Director of Education, Skills and Early Years – Schools Funding Formula | Director of Finance | December 2023 | Cabinet |
| | <p>Description: Schools funding formula for 2024/25 in relation to the National Funding Formula Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Report of the Director of Finance and Director of Education, Skills and Early Years – Schools Funding Formula</p> <p>Background documents: Various Appendices</p> <p>Report to be considered in public.</p> | | | |
| | Adoption and publication of Oldham Council's Social Value Policy | Deputy Chief Executive - | December 2023 | Cabinet |
| | <p>Description: To approve the adoption and publication of a corporate social value policy to support Oldham Council and the wider Borough. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Social Value Policy - Public</p> | | | |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|--|--|---------------------|---------------|--|
| | Alexandra Park Eco Centre Update | Director of Economy | January 2024 | Cabinet |
| <p>Description: Update regarding the new Eco Centre at Alexandra Park Depot. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Cabinet Report (Private). Restricted Paragraph Part 3 report</p> | | | | |
| | Report of the Director of Finance Budget 2024/25 – Determination of the Tax Bases for Council Tax Setting and for Business Rates Income Purposes | Director of Finance | January 2024 | Cabinet |
| <p>Description: The Determination of the Tax Bases for Council Tax Setting and for Business Rates Income for use in 2024/25 budget deliberations. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Report of the Director of Finance Budget 2024/25 – Determination of the Tax Bases for Council Tax Setting and for Business Rates Income Purposes</p> <p>Background Documents: Appendices - Various</p> <p>–Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | | |
| | Oldham Council’s inclusion within the Greater Manchester Business Rates Pool 2024/25. | Director of Finance | January 2024 | Cabinet Member - Finance and Corporate Resources |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------|--|
| Page 44 | <p>Description: The report seeks formal approval for the Council’s inclusion in the Greater Manchester Business Rates Pool for the financial year 2024/25. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Oldham Council’s inclusion within the Greater Manchester Business Rates Pool 2024/25</p> <p>Background Documents: Various Appendices</p> <p>Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | |
| | Non-Domestic Rates Tax Base 2024/25 | Director of Finance | January 2024 | Cabinet Member - Finance and Corporate Resources |
| | <p>Description: Report setting out information to determine the Non-Domestic (Business Rates) Tax Base for 2024/25, using the most up to date information and estimates available. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed report title: Non-Domestic Rates Tax Base 2024/25</p> <p>Background Documents: Various Appendices and Council Tax Tax Base and Non-Domestic Rates Tax Base Forecast 2024/25 (Presented to Cabinet on 22 January 2024)</p> <p>Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | |
| | Report of the Director of Finance – Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2024/25 | Director of Finance | February 2024 | Cabinet |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| <p>Page 45</p> | <p>Description: To consider the Council’s Treasury Management Strategy for 2024/25 - including Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement, Annual Investment Strategy and Prudential Indicators Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Report of the Director of Finance – Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2024/25</p> <p>Background Documents: Appendices</p> <p>Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | |
| | <p>Report of the Director of Finance – Revenue Budget 2024/25 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 to 2028/29</p> | <p>Director of Finance</p> | <p>February 2024</p> | <p>Cabinet</p> |
| | <p>Description: To consider the Administration’s detailed revenue budget for 2024/25 and budget reduction proposals, together with the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2024/25 to 2028/29, incorporating the current policy landscape and Local Government Finance Settlement. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Report of the Director of Finance – Revenue Budget 2024/25 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 to 2028/29</p> <p>Background Documents: Various appendices</p> <p>Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|--|--|---------------------|---------------|----------------|
| | Report of the Director of Finance – Capital Programme & Capital Strategy for 2024/25 to 2028/29 | Director of Finance | February 2024 | Cabinet |
| <p>Description: To consider the Council’s Capital programme and capital strategy. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Report of the Director of Finance – Capital Programme & Capital Strategy for 2024/25 to 2028/29</p> <p>Background Documents: Appendices</p> <p>Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | | |
| | Report of the Director of Finance – Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2023/24 Month 8 | Director of Finance | February 2024 | Cabinet |
| <p>Description: The report provides an update on the Council’s 2023/24 forecast revenue budget position and the financial position of the capital programme as at the period ending 30 November 2023 (Month 8) Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Report of the Director of Finance – Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2023/24 Month 8</p> <p>Background Documents: Appendices – Various</p> <p>Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | | |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|---|--|---|---------------|----------------|
| | Joint Report of the Executive Director Place and Economic Growth and Director of Finance – Housing Revenue Account Estimates for 2024/25 to 2028/29 and Projected Outturn for 2023/24. | Director of Finance, Executive Director for Place & Economic Growth | February 2024 | Cabinet |
| <p>Description: The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Outturn Estimates for 2023/24, the detailed budget for 2024/25 and the Strategic HRA Estimates for the four years 2025/26 to 2028/2</p> <p>Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Housing Revenue Account Estimates for 2024/25 to 2028/29 and Projected Outturn for 2023/24</p> <p>Background Documents: Appendices</p> <p>Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | | |
| | Report of the Director of Finance – Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2023/24 Quarter 3 | Director of Finance | March 2024 | Cabinet |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|---|--|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Page 48 | <p>Description: The report provides an update on the Council’s 2023/24 forecast revenue budget position and the financial position of the capital programme as at the period ending 31 December 2023 (Quarter 3) Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Report of the Director of Finance – Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2023/24 Quarter 3 Background Documents: Appendices – Various Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | |
| | <p>Report of the Director of Finance - Local Taxation and Benefits Discretionary Policies 2024/25</p> | <p>Director of Finance</p> | <p>March 2024</p> | <p>Cabinet</p> |
| <p>Description: To confirm the Council’s Local Taxation and Benefits Discretionary Policies for 2024/25 Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Local Taxation and Benefits Discretionary Policies 2024/25 Background Documents: Appendices Report to be considered in public</p> | | | | |
| | <p>Report of the Director of Finance – Treasury Management 2023/24 – Quarter 3 Report</p> | <p>Director of Finance</p> | <p>March 2024</p> | <p>Cabinet</p> |

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 18 SEPTEMBER 2023

| Key Decision Reference | Subject Area For Decision | Led By | Decision Date | Decision Taker |
|---|---------------------------|--------|---------------|----------------|
| <p>Description: The Quarter 3 review of Treasury Management activity during the third Quarter of 2023/24. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Proposed Report Title: Report of the Director of Finance – Treasury Management Review 2023/24 – Quarter 3 Report</p> <p>Background Documents: Appendices</p> <p>Report to be considered in Public</p> | | | | |

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Key:

New! - indicates an item that has been added this month

Notes:

1. The procedure for requesting details of documents listed to be submitted to decision takers for consideration is to contact the Contact Officer contained within the Key Decision Sheet for that item. The contact address for documents is Oldham Council, Civic Centre, West Street, Oldham, OL1 1UH. Other documents relevant to those matters may be submitted to the decision maker.
2. Where on a Key Decision Sheet the Decision Taker is Cabinet, the list of its Members are as follows: Councillors Arooj Shah, Elaine Taylor, Shaid Mushtaq, Abdul Jabbar MBE, Chris Goodwin, Fida Hussain, Barbara Brownridge, Mohon Ali and Peter Dean.
3. Full Key Decision details (including documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration, specific contact officer details and notification on if a report is likely to be considered in private) can be found via the online published plan at:
<http://committees.oldham.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=144&RD=0>

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